AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-4, 9, 11-13, 15, 17, 19 and 25, and add new claims 26-31, as shown in the claims listed below.

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1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance to a mammalian eye having an internal limiting membrane, the method comprising:

visualizing the internal limiting membrane of the eye~~,~~;

locating the ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance between the internal limiting membrane and the retina~~,~~; and

using the internal limiting membrane to secure the ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance comprises a drug.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance comprises a device.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the device ~~is~~ comprises ~~an~~ at least one array for electrostimulation of the retina.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the device has external connectors.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the substance is in a delivery vehicle.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the delivery vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a capsule, a bead, a liposome, a sphere, a dissolvable biocompatible polymer sheet, and combinations thereof.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the delivery vehicle provides slow-release drug delivery.

9. (Currently amended) A method for effecting treatment of a retina in a mammal comprising providing a ~~therapeutic or preventive retinal stimulator and drug~~ substance between an internal limiting membrane and the retina to contact the retina and stimulate ~~visual perception~~ retinal cells to effect treatment ~~of vision~~.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the treatment effected is for a condition selected from the group consisting of retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, a degenerative retinal disease, and combinations thereof.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the substance ~~is a~~ comprises at least one semiconductor microphotodiode array.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the substance ~~is an~~ comprises at least one electrode array.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 9 wherein the substance ~~is~~ comprises a vehicle containing a drug.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the drug is selected from the group consisting of an α-adrenergic agonist, a β-adrenergic agonist, an antiinflammatory agent, an antiproliferative agent, and combinations thereof.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the ~~visual perception is~~ retinal cells stimulated ~~by stimulating cells that~~ are selected from the group consisting of photoreceptor cells, ganglion cells, neurofiber cells, and combinations thereof.

16. (Original) A method for enhancing vision in a patient having decreased vision due to retinal pathology or injury comprising locating a retinal stimulator substance between an internal limiting membrane and the retina, the substance capable of stimulating the retina to enhance visual function.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the substance comprises ~~is~~ a photostimulated semiconductor microphotodiode array.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising providing a light source to stimulate the array.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the substance comprises ~~is~~ an electrically stimulated electrode array.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 further comprising providing an electrical source to stimulate the array.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the patient has a retinal pathology selected from the group consisting of retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, a retinal degenerative disease, and combinations thereof.

22. (Previously presented) A method for effecting treatment of a retina in a mammal comprising providing a retinal chemical stimulator between an internal limiting membrane and the retina to contact the retina and stimulate retinal cells to effect treatment.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the drug affects retinal degeneration.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the drug is regenerative.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~retinal stimulator~~ substance comprises a drug and a device.

26. (New) A method for effecting ~~a therapeutic or preventive~~ treatment of a retina in a mammal comprising providing at least one connectionless array between an internal limiting membrane and the retina to contact the retina and stimulate retinal cells to effect the treatment.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one connectionless array comprises at least one photostimulated array.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one photostimulated array comprises at least one semiconductor microphotodiode array.

29. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the substance comprises at least one connectionless array.

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30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one connectionless array comprises at least one photostimulated array.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the at least one photostimulated array comprises at least one semiconductor microphotodiode array.